

Chair & Committee Members
Committee: Natural Resources & Environmental Affairs & House Great Lakes & Environment
ATTN: Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

March 27, 2009

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Dear Committee Members:

BY: _____

My name is Dennis Eade and I live at 2355 Timberlee Dr., Holland, MI. I am requesting that this letter be presented as part of testimony in support of House Bills 4677 & 4678 for the Recreation Passport legislation.

As a citizen who enjoys visiting and camping in Michigan's state parks and as an outdoorsmen who loves to fish in the greatest inland lake fishery in the nation, I am excited about, and fully support the passage of the Recreation Passport legislation. Our state parks have lacked funding far too long and it is beginning to take its toll in serious maintenance issues and dilapidated facilities. This proposed legislation provides a very reasonable means of funding the need, a tried methodology of collecting the funds (Wyoming's state park system model), and opportunity for someone who does not agree with the approach to opt out of the \$10.00 fee.

I currently co-chair a committee of fishers and private sector citizens who are building a public fish cleaning station at the DNR boat launch site at Holland State Park. This fish cleaning station project demonstrates how effective dedicated people can be when they form partnerships that bring public, non-profit and private sectors together to provide unmet and valuable services which benefit a community's citizens and the local economy. When it's completed, it will be gifted to the state and turned over to Holland State Park for ongoing operation and maintenance. We want our state parks to have the financial resources to maintain this facility and the other valuable services our citizens and our out-of-state guests enjoy every time they visit our state parks. We are asking for your support in the passing SB 388, SB 389, HB 4677, HB 4678.

This legislation is an investment whose return will benefit our children and grandchildren for decades to come.

Very truly yours,

